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MARGARET STRONG SEEKS ANNULMENT OF HER DIVORCE

Lake Forest Woman Seeks to Have Decree Set Aside on Grounds of Alimony.

When Decree was Entered She Expected to Receive Gift from Gen. Strong.

Later Discovered that She Had Been Left Out of the General's Will.

Margaret Hubbard Strong, the divorced wife of Gordon Strong, cousin of William Strong of this city is planning to return to Chicago and will seek to have her divorce decree annulled. She is now in Switzerland. She secured the divorce on March 28, 1911, in Judge Honore's court.

The decree gave her a total allowance of $5,000 a year for seven years, increasing to $5,500 a year for the following ten years, and to $6,000 a year for the rest of her life.

Mrs. Strong has decided this sum is not sufficient for her needs and so she intends to undo the settlement, if she can, and negotiate one more liberal to her in its provisions.

Says Divorce Was "Collusive."

She intends to set forth that the divorce was "illegal"—although she herself was the person who secured it; that it was "collusive" and the result of a bargain; when she agreed to it she had an expectation that her father-in-law, Gen. Henry Strong, uncle of William Strong, who died six weeks ago—on Oct. 21—would make a liberal gift to her in his will.

This expectation, she has been led to believe is not to be realized, although the general's will has not yet been probated. His estate amounts to several millions. The Republic building in State street was one of his holdings.

Domestic Discords Develop.

Col. and Mrs. Gordon Strong did not enjoy entire harmony in their marriage. She thought he was limited in his generosity; he objected to her giving her time to society pursuits at Lake Forest.

It was intimated also that Col. Strong found her "wrapped up" in her music and disposed to spend long periods abroad, giving little consideration to the practical matters of home making.

On the other hand, Mrs. Strong urged that she had property of her own when she married that her husband had "millions" and was to inherit other millions from his aged father, and that it was unfair in him to insist on "cheese paring" in household life.

Their Truce Doesn't Work Well.

Finally Col. and Mrs. Strong arranged a truce, with a contract for an allowance to the wife. They were to live apart. That was in July, 1908. It was heralded, unofficially, as a "trial divorce." Included in this arrangement was an allowance of $4,000 a year. It also was understood that she got $100,000 outright, but Mrs. Strong has intimated that this report was erroneous.

Mrs. Strong went abroad, but returned later, and she and her husband resumed residence together at the Virginia hotel.

Then—early this year—the divorce was sought and granted, with the agreement by which $1,000 a year in alimony was to be added to Mrs. Strong's annuity, with increases after seven and seventeen years, as stated.

Again Goes to Europe.

Again Mrs. Strong went abroad. There was a rumor during the summer that she was to marry a judge of the French court, as her sister had married a Swiss jurist, and that she would live in Paris. This rumor proved not to be well founded.

Recently, while residing at Ouchy-Lausanne, Mrs. Strong received news of the death of Gen. Strong and it was then that she reached a decision to ask that the decree be set aside and that she be reinstated as the wife of Col. Strong.

No Basis, Lawyers Say.

"It is all news to me," said John Barton Payne, who was attorney for Mrs. Strong during the divorce proceedings. "I have not heard from Mrs. Strong since she departed for Europe. My services as her attorney ceased when she got the divorce and I have not been asked to represent her in any contemplated proceedings.

"So far as I know the entire agreement was of written record and merely provided for a monthly allowance. Nothing was said of her sharing in her father-in-law's estate."

"It's preposterous," said Frank H. Scott, attorney for Gordon Strong. "I know that no intimation ever was given Mrs. Gordon Strong that she would be richly provided for in the event of her father-in-law's death. No promise of any kind was made to her except that of written record, which gives her about $400 a month.

"Mrs. Strong sued for divorce and got it uncontested. Now, if what is said is true she is aggrieved since her former husband has inherited some money. She apparently wants to get some of it."

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Young King of Siam At Bangkok Ea

Bangkok, Siam, Nov. 30.—Maha Vajiravudh, the young king of Siam, is to be crowned early next month, the festivities beginning Dec. 1 and lasting until Dec. 8. He ascended to the throne Oct. 23, 1910, on the death of his father, but the public exercises connected with the coronation were

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amicable settlements of vital questions.

Union Services Held.

Six local churches united in a Union Thanksgiving service at the First Presbyterian church on Thursday morning. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Richardson of the First Congregational church. The other churches and pastors uniting were as follows: First Baptist, Geo. McGinnis; First Christian, Ellsworth E. Faris; St. John's, Frank P. Francke; First Methodist, H. T. Clendening; First Presbyterian, S. W. Chidester.

"Politics and Religion" was the theme of the splendid sermon delivered by Rev. Richardson. He said that it had been claimed by some, especially by the bosses who are interested for their own welfare, that the churches have no right to mix in politics. He then went on in a clear and convincing line of arguments to prove that it is the business of the church to stand for all that is good and he maintained that it is the duty of the church to purify politics. Rev. Richardson has a way of driving home his arguments in a convincing manner that is very pleasing. The services were well attended by members of the six churches uniting.

A Narrow Escape.

A groceryman in a small town in Jersey had an exhibit of eggs in his show window. One day he removed the eggs and filled the window space with a brood of tiny chickens. A colored woman who dealt at the store happened to pass and stopped, aghast.

"Well, fo' de lan's sake," she exclaimed, "if dem eggs hain't done gone an' hatched!"

"Well, what of it?" smilingly queried a bystander.

"What of it?" cried the colored woman. "Why, jes' look what a narrer escape dat de angel cake dat I made de udder day had from bein' a chicken potpie!"—Philadelphia Telegraph.

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Margaret Strong Seeks Annulment

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